

MWD Meeting
Opening Comments
Barrie Levy
October 22, 2023

Welcome everyone– it is good to see you all!

I am in a very somber mood – my soul aches, as I'm sure many of you feel as well.

My life's work has been promoting non-violence, and respectful, peaceful, even if difficult, ways to solve problems, and the use of strategic methods, such as passive resistance, to make change. My work has focused on strengthening what my work team calls the "3 Cs" – communication, collaboration, and community – which also bring us here together as part of MWD.

So, let's pause for a moment to reflect, and grieve, for the thousands of people suffering from unnecessary state- sponsored violence: in Syria, Sudan, Rwanda, Central America, and Ukraine, and police brutality in the US...and for the people of Israel, Gaza and the West Bank.

I am looking forward to today's meeting - we will focus on revealing the truth behind the masks of two of our lunatic Republican candidates for Congress – Mike Garcia in CA 27 and Scott Baugh in CA 47. I have never been more motivated to STOP these people who recklessly foster violence and suffering, and care so little about "el pueblo" (in the words of a gentleman we spoke with when we canvassed in Palmdale yesterday).

I am glad you all are here to experience the power and strength of our collective actions to defend peace and Democracy, and that you will leave this meeting soothed, strengthened, and ready for action.